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HB 5537

March 12, 2014

Dear CT PHC Testimony,

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee:

I write to ask you to strongly support and vote in the affirmative to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic physician scope of practice to HB 5537. The language needs to be attached to this bill so it can come before the Public Health Committee for consideration. This Naturopathic scope of practice law is 90 years old and has not kept pace with the significant advances in education and training of Naturopathic doctors in the ensuing decades.

I see my naturopathic doctor in Connecticut who is also licensed in other states that extend prescriptive authority to naturopathic physicians. Because of the limited scope of practice in Connecticut my naturopath must send me to a medical doctor who writes the prescriptions that the naturopath develops in my treatment plan. CT Naturopathic doctors should be given the same prescriptive authority similar to other states like Arizona, Vermont, and New Hampshire.

There will be significant cost and time savings to patients and 3rd party payers.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,  
theresa cassesi